



Department of Public Safety

**Division of Fire Safety  
Rutland Regional Office**  
56 Howe Street, Building A- Suite 200  
Rutland, VT 05701  
[www.vtfiresafety.org](http://www.vtfiresafety.org)

[phone] 802-786-5867  
[fax] 802-786-5872

August 29, 2014

Robert Belisle  
33 Prospect Street  
Woodstock, VT 05091

Re: Variance Request

Location: 33 Prospect Street

Site # 91866

Dear Mr. Belisle,

I am in receipt of your variance request to allow the existing bedroom window to remain.

Under the provisions of the amended 2012 Vermont Fire & Safety Code, Section 8, a variance may be granted when the applicant can demonstrate that an equal degree of safety is being provided through a safe alternative method.

The building is a single family rental. The egress window located in the first floor bedroom and the second floor bedroom of the main house measures **20 inches in height**, by 30 inches in width, for a total of 4.2 square feet.

The egress window in apartment over the garage, measures **21 inches in height**, by 38 inches in width, for a total of 5.54 square feet.

**Code Requirement:** The minimum "net clear opening of egress windows must be 5.7 square inches," and the sill height must be not more than 44 inches above the floor. The minimum net clear opening height is **24 inches** and the minimum net clear opening width is 20 inches, with a total net opening of 820 square inches. When using a double hung window, the 5.7 square feet of open-able area must be in the bottom sash only. 2012 NFPA 101 24.2.2.



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Because your egress windows do not meet the minimum net clear opening of **24 inches in height** as required by the Life Safety Code 2012 Edition your variance request is **DENIED**.

To request reconsideration the owner or designated representative shall submit a written request to Joe Benard, Deputy Director no later than 30 days after receiving the decision. You may contact Mr. Benard, at 1311 U.S. Route 302, Suite 600, Barre, VT 05641-2351.

Sincerely,

L.D. Sutherland Jr.  
Regional Manager, Rutland

Cc: Regional Managers

Deputy Director

David Green, Assistant Fire Marshal